

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No.

B3645

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Johnson House (Hullsville - Mt. Winans)

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 2508 Huron Street ☐ not for publicationcity, town Baltimore ☐ vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Baltimore City

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Johnson Family

street & number 2508 Huron Street telephone no.:

city, town Baltimore, Maryland 21230 state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Land Records Room liber

street & number District Courthouse folio

city, town Baltimore Maryland state

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. B3645

Condition

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

B3645 2508 Huron Hullsville Johnson House c. 1884-5

The House at 2508 Huron Street is an attached, Italianate inspired, row house. It has a flat roof with large brackets supporting proportionately wide eaves. It is partially obscured by an overgrown evergreen and it is finished with novelty rock faced siding. The house is located in the historically black community of Mt. Winans. This section of Mt. Winans has been identified as Hullsville by the older black residents.

The house is located on a block which is bounded by Hollins Ferry Road on the north, Huron Street to the east, Harmon Road on the south and Ridgeley Avenue on the west. The lot is located within Hull's Addition in an urbanized area about seven miles south west of Baltimore's Inner Harbor area. The lots are organized in a typical grid pattern with the exception of their having long, rectangular plat lines. Hullsville is a community which is bounded by Hollins Ferry Road on the north and east, and the B&O Railroad on the south and west. The topography of the community indicates very minor variations in elevation although the general slope is towards the north east, Inner Harbor waterways. Vegetation is very sparse, only a few trees exist in the area and hedges have been generally unattended and are overgrown on the few sites where they had been planted.

Small This house is two stories high with a recessed entry which is typical of the Italianate influence. The scale of the house is considerably miniature in comparison with the grand design of this type. The first floor windows are tall and narrow with flat arches laid on the architrave. This structure is atypical of the dwellings in the community. The novelty siding detracts from the historical context of this dwelling but the quality of material and the sensitive articulation of this site is a commendable achievement of the builder.

8. Significance

Survey No. B3645

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1884–5 Builder/Architect Unknown

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. B3645

None available for this community.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

2508 Huron Street
Parcel, also known as Hull's Addition in Baltimore City

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Barbara Collins Turner

organization Morgan State University

date January 1983

street & number Center for Built Environment Studies

telephone 444-3225

city or town Baltimore, Maryland 21239

state

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

8. Statement of Significance

It is not uncommon for groups of people who share ethnic identities to form urban or rural settlements where the architecture, folklore, and other aspects of material culture were actively pursued and transmitted within the community. In spite of the peculiar aspects of the black American's trek from slavery to freedom, black people also responded to the struggle for existence by forming communities and settlements consciously. What is needed is an evaluation of what is known about sites that are significantly related to black history. This evaluation requires expanding upon the historic sites inventory which is currently available and providing documentation of spatial relationships, functional characteristics, structural requirements, and modifications. Ideally, the findings here would be most significant where we identify spaces that were occupied by slaves, free blacks, influential black leaders, professionals, working class, and poor blacks within a relevant comparative framework.

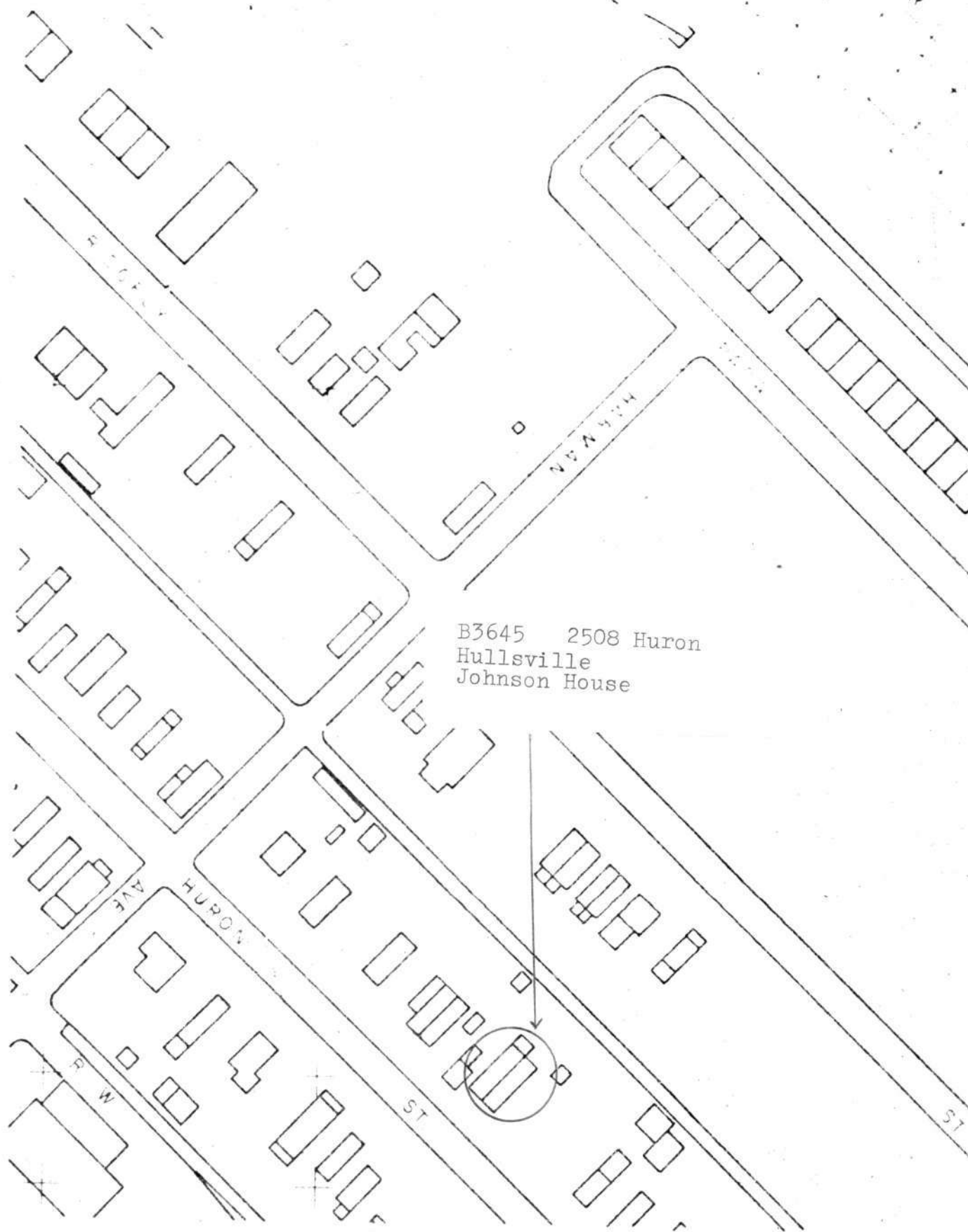
The black town was formally conceived as a community following Emancipation and dotted the American landscape from c. 1870 through the 1930's. These were usually formal communities located along an urban access route. The urban enclave, on the other hand, is a black settlement which typically categorizes the early communities that are historically black in urbanized areas. It is probably the most pervasive form of community in cities and its remnants are extant throughout the United States. Usually, a patriarchal community was formed around a colored school or church, and houses were built by the families who purchased lots from the patriarch. As cities grew, these communities became annexed by the city and formed the basic black district in the older areas. The grid plan is the form determinant although a spatial analysis of the relationship between spaces and nodal axis points which qualify spatial hierarchies is desperately needed.

Hullsville, (Mt. Winans) was settled in 1853 with the construction of the Sharp Street Memorial African Methodist Chapel. The community was established by 1878 where home building, roads and service institutions were defining the community. Most of the heads of households were independent artisans, semi-skilled laborers, and craftsmen. The conception of the community was defined by its racial homogeneity and the independent economic status of the men.

A modified grid plan was developed by the community although this system may have been a response to a conception of formality rather than a consciously designed program. This community is defined by exceptionally wide streets, their axis being determined by natural contours of the land rather than a formal idealized plan. The form of the dominant house type in the early houses is vernacular, a detached row house probably reminiscent of the city image that the founding residents maintained.

Our problem is to determine what relationship the various patterns of settlement formation in black communities had to conceptions of space, time, and good design when these elements were in control of the builder. We need to support the preservation of these districts in order to contribute to urban design theory knowledge of the ways in which race, class, and space are integrally related.

B3645 2508 Huron
Hullsville
Johnson House

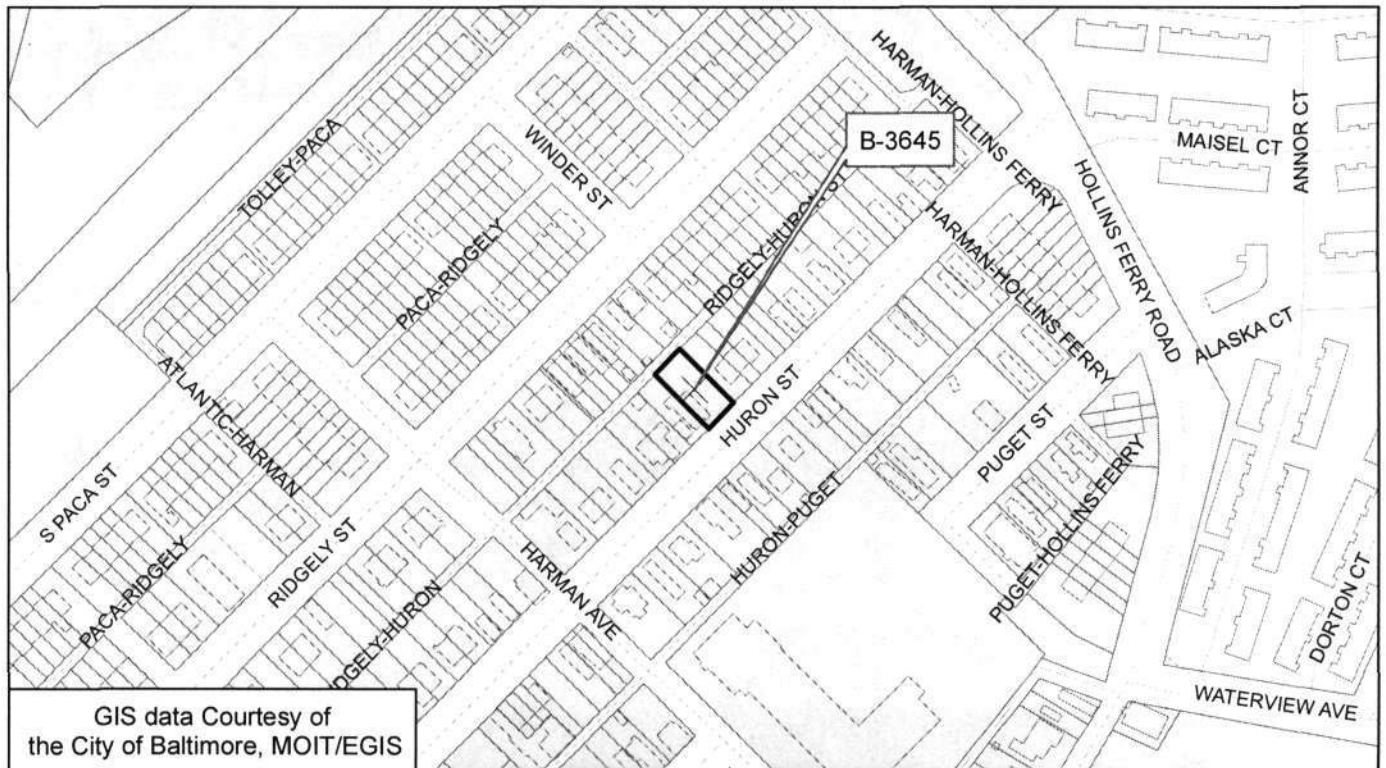


13,000 SOUTH 2.5 MILES SOUTH

8 50 WEST

1.5 MILE WEST

B-3645
Johnson House
2508 Huron Street
Block 7473 Lot 021
Baltimore City
Baltimore West Quad.





B3645 Johnson House
General View
Fern Eisner, photo 6/82